

McCarthy, V.

DRAPER

ACT 15-5-M

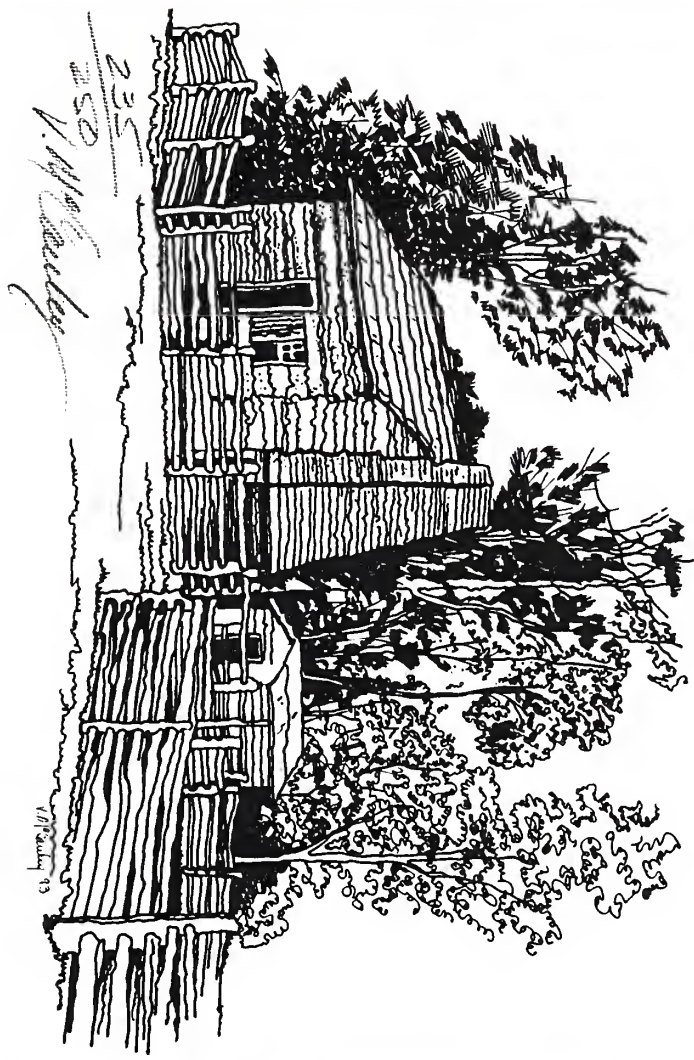
71. 2009. 085. 02394

Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

V. McCauley

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



...it was just an idea

THE LINCOLN CABIN
Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial
Spencer County (a restoration)

Settlement of the newly created Indiana Territory took place in the nineteenth century. The early settlers used the Ohio River for transportation. They were comprised of farmers, speculators and traders with one common motive, the desire for land.

After an area was cleared of trees, a lean-to was constructed. The Lincoln family lived in such a camp when they came to Indiana in November, 1816. At the time, Abe was only a seven year old boy. As soon as the family was able, a cabin was constructed of logs chinked with crude mortar. It was small and contained a fireplace and a built-in bed; sometimes a sleeping loft.

Families were large, living was cramped and privacy was non-existent. Life was hard and mortality high. The pioneer diet consisted mainly of meat and corn obtained by the combination hunter, farmer and fisherman from the surrounding forest and streams. The family also gathered fruits, nuts and vegetables from the land. Every family had a garden plot, but the cleared land was devoted to three major crops, corn, flax and tobacco, all labor intensive.

Each cabin was a self-sufficient unit containing traps, guns, hoes, cradles, tools, a spinning wheel, loom and cooking and eating utensils. In spite of the hard work and endless tasks, these hardy individuals survived.

H&H Bookbinding Co., Inc.
Indianapolis, Indiana

Ma. 22.11.19, v.

DRAKE

401000-10

THE
LIBRARY
OF THE
MUSEUM
OF
COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY
AND ANATOMY
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.